



# THE TEACHERS COLLEGE Newsletter

## ESU honors its heritage

University prepares to celebrate its 150th anniversary on February 15. *page 8*

## ESU named military-friendly, works with active-duty student

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## Student teachers get help

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## NBCTs achieve certification

New and NBCTs who successfully certified were notified in November of their accomplishments. *page 4*

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## Newsletter available

Online editions of The Teachers College Newsletter are available online [www.emporia.edu/teach/newsletter/](http://www.emporia.edu/teach/newsletter/).

## U.S. Education Secretary visits ESU

Arne Duncan, U.S. education secretary, along with Dennis Van Roekel, president of the National Education Association, and Cynthia Apalinski, a third-grade science teacher from New Jersey and a 2012 Teaching Ambassador Fellow, led a town hall meeting on September 18, 2012 in the Skillett Atrium of Emporia State's Visser Hall, home of the university's Teachers College.

Before meeting with students, Duncan and Van Roekel toured the National Teachers Hall of Fame, which honors career educators with more than 20 years of service. The hall of fame was founded in 1989 by ESU, Emporia Public Schools and the City of Emporia. Both Duncan and Van Roekel attended the May reception at NEA headquarters in Washington, D.C., to honor the five educators inducted in 2012.

After the brief tour, the education leaders spent 45 minutes taking questions from future teachers — ESU students either just beginning their teaching internships or currently doing their student teaching.



*USDE Secretary Arne Duncan answers questions asked by ESU education students.*

Both Duncan and Van Roekel acknowledged the difficulties teachers face, especially in terms of low salaries keeping many people from entering the profession. Using his own background as a math educator, Van Roekel explained Finland's educational system in which equity is valued before excellence.

In Finland, Van Roekel explained, graduates with degrees in mathematics would find similar salaries offered for different uses of their degrees, whether they choose to work as an actuary, accountant or math teacher. That philosophy, he said, doesn't force people with a passion for teaching to choose a better-paying field instead.

*continues on page 5*



## Vision and Change in The Teachers College and ESU (Part I)



### Message from the Dean

The current vision of The Teachers College is “to prepare quality professionals who can positively impact the education profession and improve the learning of PK-12 students.”

Reflecting this summer on the results from successful Kansas State Department of Education and National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education accreditation reviews of all 41 educator preparation programs, evidence clearly indicates the college has met this vision. For this achievement, we celebrate the efforts and successes of our alumni, students, faculty, and staff with much appreciation. Successfully meeting

the vision means we have the rare opportunity of articulating a new vision for The Teachers College.

This fall, a committee of seven accomplished faculty have been working assiduously on crafting a new vision. This new vision will embrace the entire college, which also includes 11 non-educator preparation academic programs. In mid-November the committee released the draft vision, which was discussed during November and December department faculty meetings. At the Spring 2013 Teachers College Faculty meeting in January, the faculty will divide into

*continues on page 2*

## NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

**Childress begins presidency**

Marcus Childress, professor and chair of the Department of Instructional Design & Technology, is serving as president of the international Association for Educational Communications and Technology.

AECT is an international nonprofit professional association of educators and others whose activities are directed toward improving instruction through technology. The association is a major worldwide organization for individuals actively involved in designing instruction.

Newly elected officers and board members were installed at the annual AECT International Convention, held in November in Louisville, KY. The four-day conference on the theme, "Learning in the Age of Globalization," drew several hundred participants principally from North America, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

The 2013 conference is slated for October 29-November 2 in Anaheim, CA.

**Worrell completes presidency**

Vicki Worrell, HPER professor, recently finished her duties as president of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

AAHPERD's mission is to promote and support leadership, research, education, and best practices in the professions that support creative, healthy, and active lifestyles.

From 2009-12 Worrell served as president-elect, president and past president of the association. As she traveled across the country fulfilling her leadership responsibilities, she was able to meet many of the online HPER graduate students from across the country.

**Stanbrough finishes term**

Mark Stanbrough, HPER professor, recently completed his three-year term on the National Council for Accreditation of Coaching Education Board of Directors.

**Coaching program receives national accreditation**

Emporia State University is now one of only 10 programs in the United States offering an accredited sport coaching minor.

ESU's undergraduate sport coaching education minor received accreditation in 2012 by the National Council for Accreditation of Coaching Education. There are only 10 NCACE accredited higher education programs in the country.

"NCACE is very pleased that ESU believes in delivering quality coaching education which

is exemplified by their pursuit of accreditation," stated Christopher Hickey, NCACE Executive Director. "The ESU coaching program has numerous successful coaches in the field who have earned state, regional, and national coaching awards."

Mark Stanbrough, HPER professor and director of the coaching education program, indicated his department is dedicated to continuing its efforts to create high quality and well trained sport coaches who will have the

critical knowledge and skills to deliver positive and safe sport experiences. This accreditation will ensure the promotion and adherence to the national coaching education standards.

The accreditation is valid through 2019.

**Vision and Change** *continued from page 1*

seven working groups to take an element of the vision and identify goals and tasks, a set of assessments that will measure progress, and benchmarks to determine the college's progress on that element. At some point in the spring 2013 semester, the vision will be finalized and become the basis for the college's new Long-Range Plan. I look forward to sharing with you the vision, the goals, and the assessments in Part II of this message, which will appear in the Spring, 2013 TC Newsletter.

Several personnel changes have occurred at Emporia State and in the college. Dr. Michael Shonrock will celebrate the first anniversary of his presidency in January. President Shonrock has made university growth and campus beautification the priorities for his first year, and the campus is looking great! With the changes and the transformation of the Memorial Union now complete, it is time to return to campus if you have not visited in the last five years. Former ESU Provost and Teachers College Dean Dr. Tes Mehring is on phased retirement. Dr. Gwen Alexander has moved into the role of Interim Provost from being Dean in the School of Library and Information Management. The national search for the new Provost is underway. Dean Phil Bennett retired in June and is now the Director of the National Teachers Hall of Fame through the end of 2012.

In May, I had the very good fortune to become the new Dean of The Teachers College. I came to the Department of Psychology and Special Education at ESU in 1986 after completing my

doctorate in educational psychology from Columbia University. Prior to graduate school, I was a Peace Corps Volunteer in rural public health education in a small village in the Philippines for two years and a 7th and 8th grade science teacher for five years in my hometown in South Carolina. At ESU, I directed the ESU Honors Program from 1990 to 1993 as well as the 1992 Kansas Regents Honors Academy. After 14 years as chair of the Department of Psychology and Special Education and then six months as interim dean of The Teachers College during the summer and fall of 2008, I became Associate Dean of the college in 2009. My wife and I have four children, three of whom are Hornets.

The campus is gearing up to celebrate ESU's 150th anniversary with a February 15, 2013 gala to kickoff a yearlong celebration of this amazing milestone. The focus of all of the festivities is you, our alumni, and I extend a special thank you to you and all ESU alumni for what you do to enrich communities around the nation and around the world as well as for your support of The Teachers College and Emporia State. Please stop by my office—Visser Hall 211—when next you are on campus and say "hi." Do not hesitate to contact me at [ttcdean@emporia.edu](mailto:ttcdean@emporia.edu).

Sincerely,  
Ken Weaver

## Faculty honored

### Russell Honored

Dr. Carol Russell, a former Faculty President, was commended in October in faculty senate for leading the Faculty & Staff Spouse and Dependent Tuition Assistance Program initiative.



### Mehring Receives Honors

In September, the ESU Faculty Senate Executive Committee passed a resolution to recognize Dr. Tes Mehring for her sustained and considerable contributions to the university.



The resolution cited her service and leadership to the faculty, including serving as Chair of the Department of Psychology, Dean of The Teachers College, and Provost. Mehring is currently a professor in the Department of Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, and Special Education.

At the Fall 2012 meeting of The Renaissance Group, Mehring received TRG's Annual Leadership Award, presented by Dr. Phil Bennett, former dean of The Teachers College at ESU.

TRG is a national consortium of colleges, universities and a professional organization, with a major commitment to the preparation of educational professionals, and to the promotion of exemplary practices, partnerships and leadership that ensure high levels of teaching and learning for all of America's schools. ESU has been a member of TRG since 1990.

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Emporia State University's The Teachers College Newsletter is an occasional publication designed to inform its audience about activities of the college's departments, students, and alumni published by the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence. To request additional past editions of this newsletter, contact: Terri Weast, Editor, Campus Box 4036, Emporia State University, 1200 Commercial, Emporia, KS 66801-5087 or at [tweast@emporia.edu](mailto:tweast@emporia.edu). It is the policy of Emporia State University to guarantee equal employment opportunity, equal educational opportunity, and non-discrimination in the operation and administration of all of its programs and services.

## Changes within The Teachers College

### Administration

Dr. Joan Brewer, who was serving as the Health, Physical Education, and Recreation department chair, was recently named as the interim associate dean of The Teachers College.

The interim HPER department chair is Dr. Shawna Shane.

These changes will remain in effect until an associate dean is hired.

### Department's name changes

On December 3, the Kansas Board of Regents approved to change the name of Office of Professional Education Services (OPES) to the Office of Field Placement and Licensure.

Under the direction of Dr. Steve Neill, the office's programs include: teacher licensure; coordination of field experiences for introduction to teaching, student teaching, counselor education, adaptive special education, School of Library and Information Management and Modern Languages; and the Family Literacy Program.

### New Teachers College faculty and staff

Counselor Education -

Eric Beeson, Instructor

Russell Fulmer, Assistant Professor

Elementary Education / Early Childhood

Education / Special Education -

Sonja Ezell, Instructor

Jessica Luke, Assistant Professor

Terri McAlister, Instructor

Jones Institute for Educational Excellence -

Lucie Eusey, Interim Director, Conferences and Workshops

Dawn Moews, Interim Assistant Director,

Conferences and Workshops

Alvin Peters, Director, Great Plains Center for National Teacher Certification

Psychology -

John Wade, Associate Professor

School Leadership / Middle & Secondary

Teacher Education -

John Morton

### Graduate certificate in autistic spectrum disorders available

The Teachers College at ESU has a new graduate certificate program in autistic spectrum disorders (ASD). Faculty from education, counseling, and psychology worked in collaboration to develop this interdisciplinary, online program.

The ASD graduate certificate requires 12 graduate credit hours. These hours may be completed either independent from or in combination with a master's degree. Students who complete the program will receive a graduate certificate in Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

This program helps professionals who work with persons with ASD and their family members develop the knowledge and skills needed to do so effectively. It is designed for professionals from education, counseling, psychology, and art therapy.

Family members of persons with ASD who meet the program admissions requirements may also complete the program.

To learn more about this program, please visit the program web site ([www.emporia.edu/elecse/sped/](http://www.emporia.edu/elecse/sped/)) or contact the Program Director, Dr. Marj Bock ([mbock1@emporia.edu](mailto:mbock1@emporia.edu)) in the Department of Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, and Special Education.

### Changes in ESU commencement

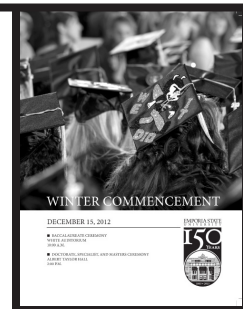
When Emporia State University conferred degrees to graduates on December 15, 2012 a new tradition began — separate ceremonies for undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Undergraduate commencement was held at 10 a.m. at White Auditorium. More than 320 students were candidates for baccalaureate degrees.

Graduate commencement was held at 2 p.m. at Albert Taylor Hall in Plumb Hall on the Emporia State campus. More than 220 students were candidates for doctorate, specialist and master's degrees.

Both fall and spring ceremonies are now to be held indoors.

Additional information, including the program for the Fall 2012 commencement, is available at [www.emporia.edu/commencement](http://www.emporia.edu/commencement).



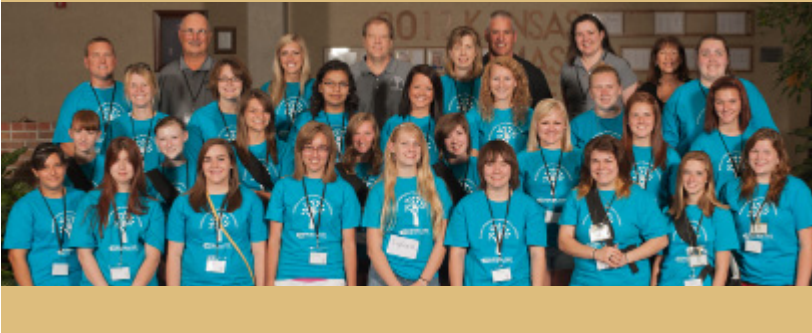
## Kansas high school students explore education careers

For the first time in its 23-year history, the Kansas Future Teacher Academy's class of 2012 consisted of all females.

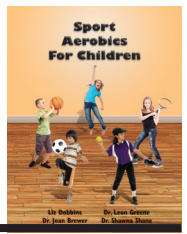
The Kansas high school students met with experienced teachers and teacher candidates, discussed what a career in education would involve, and learned about numerous professions within education.

Applications for the 2013 academy will be available in January 2013. For more information about the academy, visit [www.facebook.com/KS.FutureTeacher.Academy](http://www.facebook.com/KS.FutureTeacher.Academy) or [www.emporia.edu/jones/kfta/](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/kfta/).

KFTA is looking for alumni. If you attended the academy, please contact Terri Weast at 620-341-5372 or [tweast@emporia.edu](mailto:tweast@emporia.edu).



*Joan Brewer, HPER associate professor, and Shawna Shane, HPER associate professor, recently had their book, Sport Aerobics for Children, published by Sipes Press. The book uses a contemporary approach blending traditional fitness-related activities with music to develop sport specific skills.*



## Psychology Day 2012

Students from Emporia High School's Advanced Placement Psychology classes attended Psychology Day at ESU on October 23, 2012.

The students participated in hands-on activities including visual illusions, sensation and perception task, goal-setting, to rat mazes and rope-climbing. Other events of the day included: a keynote address by John Wade, assistant professor of psychology at ESU, a panel discussion with current psychology undergraduate and graduate students, a tour of Visser Hall, and sitting in on a psychology class lecture.

Psychology faculty members, graduate teaching assistants, Psychology Club members, and undergraduate and graduate students in the department assisted with the day's variety of activities.

The 25 high school students are taught by ESU alumnus Peter Leyva.

## Kansas educators achieve National Board Certification

In 2012, 11 Kansas educators achieved first-time certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and another 10 renewed their national board certification.

These teachers worked toward national board certification during the 2011-12 school year. During that time they gathered and wrote extensive documentation of their instruction, including videos of their students at work in the classroom.

These materials were submitted to be reviewed by peer educators last spring. It was not until November and early December that these teachers found out if they had successfully demonstrated their accomplished teaching practice.

The new Kansas NBCTs are:

- USD 229 Blue Valley – Lisa Ciminieri, Ashley DeForest, Catherine Healy, and Erin Pearson
- USD 232 De Soto – Brandi Leggett and Wendy Ping
- USD 259 Wichita – Rachel Aponso
- USD 437 Auburn-Washburn – Teresa Hime
- USD 446 Independence – Leigh Ann Stewart
- USD 475 Geary County – Heather Fleming
- USD 500 Kansas City – Tamara Hedenskog

The Kansas NBCTs who had their certificates renewed are:

- USD 226 Meade – Ethel Reimer
- USD 229 Blue Valley – Ronda Hassig, Teresa Hogan, Ann Schuster, Rebecca Stith Munson
- USD 274 Oakley – Jerrilee Shuman
- USD 320 Wamego – Dr. Lori Goodson
- USD 372 Silver Lake – Jamie Manhart
- USD 475 Geary County – Clifford "Kip" French
- USD 512 Shawnee Mission – Karen Tritt

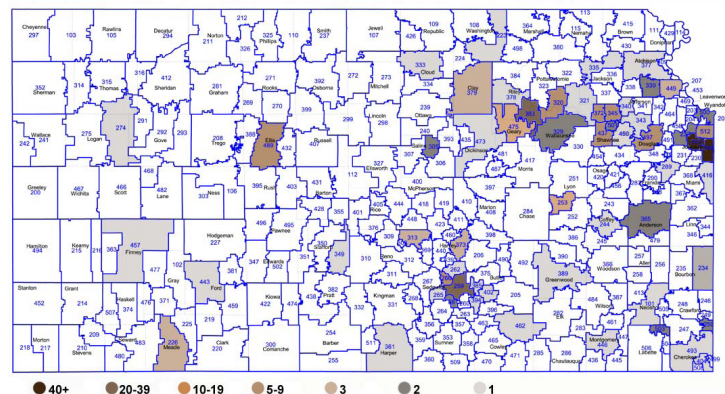
While state licensing systems set the basic requirements to teach in each state, National Board Certified Teachers have demonstrated advanced teaching knowledge, skills and practices. National certification takes from one to three years to complete.

The accomplishment of national board certification benefits the teachers, the schools they work in, and studies have shown NBCTs improve student learning. The program hosted at ESU, Great Plains Center for National Teacher Certification, has a 79% initial certification rate over the past seven years. This is nearly twice the national initial certification rate of 40%.

The Great Plains Center maintains a 100% renewal rate with candidates achieving it on their first attempt.

More information about ESU's program can be found at [www.emporia.edu/jones/nbpts/](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/nbpts/).

Number of National Board Certified Teachers in Kansas USDs



Secretary visits *continued from page 1*

Duncan drew sustained applause when he told the students about the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program which forgives student loans after time spent working in the public sector, which would include teaching.

“After 10 years of public service,” Duncan said, “the remaining debt is erased, forgiven.”

The U.S. education system is not only a civil rights issue for the disparity of resources, Duncan said, but it is an economic issue because teachers can’t afford to teach and also a national security issue because 75 percent of recruits cannot qualify for military service based on academic and physical qualifications.

Education reform, Duncan concluded, “is a movement whose time has come.”



The National Teachers Hall of Fame and ESU were featured in the October 2 edition of Teaching Matters: A Newsletter Celebrating Teachers & Teaching from the US Department of Education. The newsletter’s cover picture is Sec. Duncan signing the visitors’ log at the NTHF. Scroll down to the “Things that Make Us Say, “WOW!” column titled “Preparing Teachers to Lead and Succeed: Emporia State University Teachers College.”

Note that the article reports a retention rate of our teachers after three years of 92%. The retention rate of our teachers after three years determined using the optimal KSDE data is 80%, not the 92% in the article. However, 80% still far exceeds the national average of 47%. Over time, the high placement rates of our graduates (prior to 2008 when many P-12 teaching positions were cut) were inadvertently blended with retention rates to become a retention rate in the 90s.

Visit the newsletter at [content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USED-5523d1](http://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USED-5523d1)



*Above: ESU Teachers College Dean Ken Weaver, National Education Association President Dennis Van Roekel, USDE Secretary Arne Duncan; Upper right: The crowd gathers to welcome Sec. Duncan and Mr. Van Roekel; Middle right: a packed atrium listens; Bottom right: Sec. Duncan talks to ESU students after the townhall meeting.*

Pictures and reflections on the visit can be found from:

- [www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2012/09/26/education-drives-america](http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2012/09/26/education-drives-america)
- [www.ed.gov/blog/topic/bustour/](http://www.ed.gov/blog/topic/bustour/)
- [www.ed.gov/blog/2012/09/were-not-in-kansas-anymorebut-we-were-for-bus-tour-day-five/](http://www.ed.gov/blog/2012/09/were-not-in-kansas-anymorebut-we-were-for-bus-tour-day-five/)
- flickr.com – search for “Bus Tour 2012 Emporia”
- youtube.com – search for “Bus Tour Across America - Day Five” and “Town Hall Meeting at Emporia State University”
- storify.com/usedgov/back-to-school-bus-tour-day-five

### Lattner Challenge funding benefits student teachers

Students in ESU's nationally recognized teacher education program may find it easier to juggle the demands of classes and finances. A scholarship program for student teachers is now in place, thanks to a grant supported by the Lattner Family Foundation and donors who helped match the organization's \$50,000 challenge.

Announcement of the challenge grant's completion and creation of the Student Teacher Education Scholarship Program occurred at the annual back-to-school meeting for The Teachers College faculty in August.

The capstone professional development at Emporia State's Teachers College is student teaching, a full year's immersion into the school and classroom environment.

"Candidates' daily expectations are relentlessly intense as they teach during the day and then work in the evenings to perfect and practice lesson plans that they will deliver to their students during the next day's classes, as well as grade assignments, tests, and projects," said Ken Weaver, The Teachers College dean.

That intense preparation leaves student teachers with little time to work. In fact, candidates are advised not to work, which results in added financial concerns for them.

"Now our students will have the Lattner Fund to ease their burden," said Weaver. Teaching interns who demonstrate a financial need can be given money to help complete their program.

"The Lattner Challenge grant was created during my time as associate dean and when I became dean, I had goal of seeing the match completed before I retired," said Phil Bennett, former dean of The Teachers College. "The announced completion of the match and upcoming celebration is a very gratifying time for me. I would like to personally thank all those who contributed to the match."

"Emporia State and The Teachers College are very thankful and appreciative for the leadership and the generosity of the Lattner Foundation and our donors in attaining this milestone of assistance for our student teachers," said ESU President Michael Shonrock.

"At a time when local, state, and national economies remain stubbornly sluggish, the successful efforts of the Lattner Foundation and our donors to reach the fundraising goal reflect the importance of supporting our future teachers," Weaver concluded.

Contributions to the Student Teacher Education Scholarship Program are continually accepted and appreciated. For more information on contributing to the program, contact the Emporia State University Foundation at 620-341-5440.

## ALUMNI NOTES

Linda Peters (BS) began work as the pre-kindergarten special education teacher for both Hillsboro and Goessel through Marion County Special Education Cooperative this fall. Peters has taught for 37 years, most of it in Marion County. The past five years were spent at USD 259 in Wichita.

### 1970s

Sandy Lewis (BSE '79), Garnett, was honored as the 2012

Elementary Teacher of the Year in the Anderson County School District. Lewis has taught for 19 years, all at Anderson County. Her husband of 35 years, Kevin, is also a teacher in the district. She has three grown children and five grandchildren.

### 1980s

Herman T. Jones (BS '80) was reelected as Shawnee County sheriff in November. Jones, 54,

### HPER online program helps active-duty military

Charlotte Miller, a graduate student in Health, Physical Education and Recreation, is living life on the sea. She has been in the Navy for the past 21 years.

Miller is a Naval Air Crewman Mechanic Chief E-7. When she is not "flying dignitaries where they want to go around the world," she is helping to keep the sailors in her command in good shape by also doubling as a Command Fitness Leader.

In three years, she will have to retire and is pursuing a graduate degree to prepare for her next goal, which is to teach or serve as an athletic director at a community college.

"The graduate program at ESU has been a great experience," she said. "The HPER online program has allowed me to pursue my graduate degree while continuing to serve my country."

Miller is currently living in Crofton, MD; her hometown is Mansfield, OH.

### ESU named military-friendly school

ESU is to be included in the Military Friendly Schools list released by Victory Media, the premier media entity for military personnel transitioning into civilian life.



The 2013 Military Friendly Schools list honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

"Inclusion on the 2013 list of Military Friendly Schools shows Emporia State's commitment to providing a supportive environment for military students," said Sean Collins, director for G.I. Jobs magazine and vice president at Victory Media. "As interest in education grows we're thrilled to provide the military community with transparent, world-class resources to assist in their search for schools."

Since 1967, ESU has educated 21,088 veterans, their dependents and reservists, according to Marilyn R. Buchele, ESU Veterans Educational Services Coordinator. Currently, there are 102 veterans, dependents and reservists enrolled.

A full story and detailed list of 2013 Military Friendly Schools was highlighted in the annual "G.I. Jobs Guide to Military Friendly Schools," distributed in print and digital format to hundreds of thousands of active and former military personnel in early October.

has worked for the ESU Police Department, the Emporia Police Department, the Kansas Highway Patrol and as the Shawnee County undersheriff. He and his wife, Carlene, have two sons, Philip, 25, and Daniel, 20.

### 1990s

Jill Lachenmayr (BSE '92), began work as assistant superintendent for academic affairs in USD 385 Andover in July. For the

previous 15 years she worked for Newton Public Schools, serving as assistant superintendent in three areas, as an elementary school principal, and director of elementary program and virtual learning. Before that, Lachenmayer worked in Newton and Hutchinson as an elementary teacher.

Kyle Griffiths (BSE '93), Salina, became principal of Cottonwood Elementary School in USD 305, Salina Public Schools this fall.

*alumni notes continue on page 7*

## STUDENT NOTES

### Graduate students awarded scholarships

Fourteen Emporia State University graduate students received more than \$22,000 total in scholarships for the 2012-13 school year.

The students are all taking courses through ESU's adaptive special education program to eventually instruct students with mild to moderate mental and/or physical disabilities.

The recipients for 2012-13 are:

- Jennifer Bartholomew, Derby
- Jason Crawford, Topeka
- Martie Helm, Madison
- Denise Hogan, Wichita
- Jacob Larson, Lawrence
- Shannon McDonald, St. Joseph
- Angela Murray-Brent, Topeka
- Arrah Nielsen-Massimini, Wichita
- Tonya Nyman, Emporia
- Angela Pennock, Paola
- Cheri Quanstrom, Topeka
- Amber Rea, Lawrence
- Julie Reiter, Gardner
- Phyllis Schaeffer, Lawrence

The scholarships are funded through generous donations made to the Adaptive Special Education Program. Recipients are chosen based on academic merit and professionalism. Applications are due in April; scholarships are allotted for the next school year.

For more information about the Adaptive Special Education Program, visit [www.emporia.edu/elecse/sped/adaptive.html](http://www.emporia.edu/elecse/sped/adaptive.html).

### Upcoming Events:

March 6, 2013 - Spring Teacher Career Fair/ Interview Day; find out more from Career Services, [www.emporia.edu/careerservices/](http://www.emporia.edu/careerservices/)

March 7, 2013, 6:30-8 pm - "Minute to Win It," HPER Faculty/Students spring event, HPER Gym (TBA): There is a trophy for whichever major has the highest percentage of its majors participate. Contact Jennifer Thomas for more information at [jthomas@emporia.edu](mailto:jthomas@emporia.edu).

May 10, 2013 - The Teachers College Honors Banquet; contact the Dean's office for more information.

May 18, 2013 - Spring 2013 Commencement

*Three HPER students received awards at the 2012 KAHPERD convention. l-r: Annie Adams received the undergraduate health promotion award. Libbie Stover was honored with the undergraduate teaching award. Tyler Goad, HPER graduate assistant, won the Graduate Major of Year award in teaching.*



### ESU to host 2013 KAHPERD convention

The Kansas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance Convention will return to the ESU campus in 2013.

The onsite convention manager will be Matt Howe, HPER assistant professor. In addition, April Huddleston, HPER instructor, will continue to serve as the KAHPERD convention manager.

Vicki Worrell, HPER professor, is the current KAHPERD executive director and Damon Leiss, HPER assistant professor, will be the 2013 KAHPERD president.

The last time the KAHPERD convention was held at ESU was in 2008.

## ALUMNI NOTES

Griffitts was a principal for 12 years at Present Plains Elementary in Kismet Plains. Prior to that, he was a middle and high school social studies teacher for six years.

Tiffany Nickel (BSE '95), Wichita, was named Teacher of the Year from The Arc of Sedgwick County in May 2012. Nickel is an inter-related special education teacher for USD 259.

Debi Apple (MS '96), Olathe, has been a principal in Kansas City, KS for 13 years at Morse/Lamb Early Childhood Center. She has been with USD 500 for 33 years. She and her husband, have two sons, Max and Sam, who are in college.

### 2000s

Sarah (Thon) and William Dent (both BSE '04), Lenexa, are parents of Lilyanne Joy Dent, born February 3, 2012.

Daniel Wooge (MME '04) began work in USD 230 Spring Hill this fall as band instructor for both Spring Hill Middle and High Schools. Previously, he taught at Burlington and Osage City and has numerous awards for his work.

Megan Thomas (BSE '07), Marion, began teaching business classes at Marion High school USD 408 this fall. Previously, she taught for five years at Northern Heights High School in USD 521.

Kiel Unruh (BS '07) is now the assistant women's basketball coach at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO.

Jennifer Wilton (BS '09) began teaching preschool special education this year at Circle Grove preschool in USD 416 Louisburg.

### 2010s

Andrew Ewing (EdS '11), Pratt, became the new director of South Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative in July. Upon ending his military service and being stationed at Fort Riley, he prepared for a teaching career. He taught math and social studies and was a high school football coach. Upon getting married,

he found the only opportunity to teach in the same building as his wife was in special education. "Once I got there I just fell in love with it. I love special education and special education teachers. They have such caring, giving hearts. It's where I want to be." For the next 10 years, he taught severely emotionally disturbed students in a self-contained classroom, before moving into administration. Prior to joining the Pratt-based cooperative, he was the special education coordinator with Kaw Valley Special Services in the Rossville-St. Mary's district.

*alumni notes continue on page 10*

## ESU honors its heritage

“From the moment I arrived at Emporia State, I wanted us to brand the university in a way that reflected its quality, history, heritage and traditions,” said Dr. Michael D. Shonrock, Emporia State president. “What better way to express these attributes than to use the university’s 150th anniversary logo on all our materials — including our stationery and website?”

The new logo incorporates the Emporia State seal, which features a line drawing of Plumb Hall, the school’s administration building. The branding effort also includes the wordmark, “Changing Lives Since 1863,” a value that Shonrock has emphasized since taking the helm on January 3, 2012.

The university’s Power E, which was launched in 1998, will continue to be seen on promotional and novelty items and used by the athletic department.

Preparations for the anniversary have involved several committees. Regardless of whether the

committees are geared towards student involvement, staff, academics or the community, the ultimate goal has been to bring university and community together.

The tentative schedule has the celebration starting Feb. 15 with a Founders’ Day Luncheon and Kickoff Gala in the evening. The sesquicentennial will be celebrated through the January 2014 general assembly.

Alumni are encouraged to visit [www.emporia.edu/150](http://www.emporia.edu/150) for more information about the festivities and especially to click on the Tell Your Story link at the top of the page and write in 400

characters or less how ESU has changed your life. Alumni stories from all over the world are one of the most important celebrations of the 150th!



## U.S. News ranks ESU in Top 100 of Midwest Regional Universities

Emporia State University remains a Top 100 Regional University in the 2013 edition of “Best Colleges,” which was released in September 2012 by U.S. News & World Report. As a Top 100 university, Emporia State continues Tier 1 status.

A total of 112 schools made the Tier 1 rankings — or top 75 percent — for Midwest Regional Universities. Of those, Emporia State was ranked 97.

U.S. News defines Regional Universities as institutions that offer a full range of undergraduate majors and master’s degree programs but few, if any, doctoral programs. Emporia State offers one Ph.D.

program in the School of Library and Information Management.

The rankings came from a variety of statistical information looking as far back as the 2002-03 school year and as recently as the 2011-12 academic year that was collected during spring and summer 2012. The information is weighted into categories, then calculated into a final score. The categories for Regional Universities are peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving.

The full rankings are available at [www.USNews.com](http://www.USNews.com).



## Degree-completion pledge signed

Emporia State University is one of nearly 490 four-year public colleges and universities pledging to boost college completion by 3.8 million students to help the United States reach a goal of 60 percent of adults possessing a college degree by 2025.

“Student success is the measure by which we as an institution know we are fulfilling our mission,” Dr. Michael D. Shonrock, president of Emporia State University, said about signing the pledge. “When it comes to students, our goal is simple — recruit, retain, graduate and employ.”

Through Project Degree Completion: A Public University Initiative, the institutions will increase the number of projected college degrees they award from an estimated 14.6 million to 18.4 million over the next 14 years. Collectively, public colleges and universities currently award just more than 1 million degrees annually.

Find more on Project Degree Completion on AASCU’s website, [www.aascu.org](http://www.aascu.org)

## Memorial Union rededicated

ESU’s Memorial Union was rededicated during Homecoming 2012 in October after more than two years and a \$23 million renovation.

More information — including pictures and videos — can be found at [www.emporia.edu/murenovation/](http://www.emporia.edu/murenovation/).



## Workshops Offered

### Thursday, January 10, 2013

LETRS Training - Module 3

Visit [www.emporia.edu/jones/letrs/130110-mod3.html](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/letrs/130110-mod3.html)

### Friday, January 11, 2013

LETRS Training - Module 1

Visit [www.emporia.edu/jones/letrs/130111-mod1.html](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/letrs/130111-mod1.html)

### Friday, January 18, 2013

Using Literature Circles to Teach Common Core Standards

Visit [www.emporia.edu/jones/conferences/130118-litcircles.html](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/conferences/130118-litcircles.html)

### Wednesday, January 23, 2013

LETRS Training - Module 7

Visit [www.emporia.edu/jones/letrs/130123-mod7.html](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/letrs/130123-mod7.html)

### Friday, January 25, 2013 (Grades K-4)

### Thursday, January 31, 2013 (Grades 5-8)

Reaching Rigor, Relevance & Coherence with the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics

Visit [www.emporia.edu/jones/conferences/13January-rigor.html](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/conferences/13January-rigor.html)

### Wednesday, January 30, 2013

Strategies for Implementing Higher Order Thinking Skills in the Elementary/Secondary Classroom

Visit [www.emporia.edu/jones/conferences/130130-hots.html](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/conferences/130130-hots.html)

### Friday, February 8, 2013

Inquiry-Based Close Reading to Prepare Elementary Students for the Common Core

Visit [www.emporia.edu/jones/conferences/130208-close-rdg.html](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/conferences/130208-close-rdg.html)

## KS Association for Educational Communications and Technology Conference

On March 1, 2013, the KS Association for Educational Communications and Technology and ESU's Department of Instructional Design & Technology will host a spring symposium, "Designs for Learning and Technology."

The conference will be held in ESU's Memorial Union. To find out more, visit [www.emporia.edu/jones/](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/).

## KS Reading Recovery® & Early Literacy Conference

On March 4, 2013, ESU will host "Working Together to Build Literacy," the 15th Annual Kansas Regional Reading Recovery® & Early Literacy Conference. The conference is for all early literacy educators, as well as Reading Recovery® trained teachers.

One of the keynote speakers will be Clare Vanderpool, a Newberry award-winning author.

The conference will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. in ESU's Memorial Union. The cost is \$125, including lunch and refreshments; a discounted fee is available to districts sending three or more people.

To find out more, visit [www.emporia.edu/readingrecovery/](http://www.emporia.edu/readingrecovery/).

April 19-20, 2013

Jones Distinguished Lecturer

MaryKay Orgill

Associate Professor of Chemistry,  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Visit [www.emporia.edu/jones/](http://www.emporia.edu/jones/) to find out more.

## Help Us Stay In Touch

Do you have information to share with us and/or your classmates? If so, please return the completed form to The Teachers College Newsletter, Jones Institute for Educational Excellence, Campus Box 4036, Emporia State University, Emporia, KS 66801-5087 or fax to (620) 341-6674 Attn: JIEE. You may also use the online form at [www.emporia.edu/teach/newsletter/alum-choice.html](http://www.emporia.edu/teach/newsletter/alum-choice.html).

First Name      MI      Maiden Name      Last Name  
(please indicate how you would prefer your name to appear in the newsletter)

ESU Degree(s), Graduation Year(s), Department(s)

Phone      E-mail Address  
(      )

Mailing Address      City      Zip code (please indicate 9-digit zip code)

Promotions, Job Changes, Awards, Activities, Name Changes, Marriages, Births, Deaths  
(Remember to include who, what, when, and where.)

\_\_\_\_ New Address

## The Teachers College Fund for Excellence

TTC Fund for Excellence is intended for scholarships, enrichment activities, and other critical needs. If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution, please make your check payable to The ESU Foundation, please write "TTC Fund for Excellence" in the subject line, and mail it to:

ESU Foundation  
1500 Highland St.      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Emporia, KS 66801-5018

My employer will match my gift. Enclosed is a matching gift form.

I would like information regarding planned giving.

I would like information on establishing an endowed fund.

### Donor Recognition Clubs

Annual gifts to ESU in the following amounts qualify donors for special recognition.

Patron.....	\$50,000 and above
Medallion.....	\$25,000 - \$49,999.99
Sustainer.....	\$10,000 - \$24,999.99
Chairman.....	\$2,500 - \$9,999.99
Ambassador.....	\$1,000 - \$2,499.99
KSTC.....	\$500 - \$999.99
Hornet.....	\$250 - \$499.99
Century.....	\$100 - \$249.99
Loyalty.....	Less than \$100

### Olathe's Marlin Berry named 2013 Kansas Superintendent of the Year



Olathe Superintendent Marlin Berry (MS '82) was selected as the 2013 Kansas Superintendent of the Year by Kansas School Superintendents' Association in October.

As Kansas Superintendent of the Year, Berry will be recognized at the KSSA Awards and Recognition breakfast during the USA|Kansas annual convention in January, and will go on to compete in the National Superintendent of the Year program. In addition, KSSA provides a \$1,000 scholarship to a high school senior selected by the Kansas Superintendent of the Year.

Candidates for superintendent of the year are assessed according to their professionalism, communication, community involvement and leadership in meeting the needs of students.

"The recognition is purely a reflection of a very good school district with great teachers, administrators and support staff along with a very fine Board of Education. I'm humbled to be honored with a state full of very good superintendents who work each day to help educate the kids of Kansas," said Berry.

Berry has served Olathe Public Schools since 2007, serving first as assistant superintendent and then selected as superintendent in 2010. Before coming to Olathe, he was the superintendent at Smoky Valley Public Schools and Abilene Public Schools. Prior to that, Berry was high school principal in both the Lindsborg and Gardner-Edgerton school districts.

He is a member of the American Association of School Administrators, the Kansas School Superintendents' Association, and the United School Administrators of Kansas. He also is a member of the Mid-State Benchmarking Consortium and the Kauffman Kansas-Missouri Superintendents' Forum.

Dr. Berry will represent Kansas at the American Association of School Administrators' National Conference on Education in February in Los Angeles and will be considered for the National Superintendent of the Year program.

# EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

### Seacat family's connection to ESU and teaching celebrated

A family with roots in southwest Kansas and strong ties to ESU was honored as this year's Hornet Heritage Family.

"From the early 1900s at Kansas State Normal to present-day Emporia State, the Seacat family has created a Hornet connection that deserves to be recognized," said Tyler Curtis, executive director of alumni relations.

Five of S.H. and Donia Seacat's seven children left the family farm near Bucklin and pursued their teaching careers with degrees from Kansas State Normal.

Seven second-generation Seacats earned Kansas State Teachers College degrees and spent a combined total of 160 years teaching in Kansas schools.

A third generation includes three Seacat family members who received degrees from KSTC and Emporia Kansas State College. The Seacat family also encompasses a fourth-generation ESU graduate.

Over a period of 90 years, 16 family members have earned degrees from the institution and can account for a combined total of 300 years of teaching, most of which has taken place in Kansas schools.

Surviving family members include Mark (BSB '73) and Joyce (BSE '74) Neves of Olathe; Vesta Strader (Teaching Certificate '45) of Bucklin; Kenneth Fields (BSE '71) Excelsior Springs, MO; Brent (BS '01, MS '07) and Tauna (BS '01) Baker, Topeka; Dale (BSB '54, MS '57) and Bertella (BSE '60) Seacat, Gilbert, AZ; Max (BSB '57, MS '61) and Joleen (BS '61) Seacat, Greensburg; and Dona Seacat (MS '62,) West Barnstable, MA.

The Seacat family was honored at halftime of the Emporia State/Central Oklahoma Family Day football game September 15 at Welch Stadium.

The Hornet Heritage Family award, sponsored by the ESU Alumni Association, annually recognizes a multigenerational family of Hornet alumni and former students.



## ALUMNI NOTES

Ruby Reynolds (BSE '11) started a new job as a special education teacher at Prairie Creek Elementary School in USD 230 Spring Hill this fall. She previously worked as a long-term resource room substitute teacher in the DeSoto School District.

Christopher Sherve (MS '11), Minnesota, was recently accepted to begin his doctorate at West Virginia University.

Daniel O'Connell (MS '12), Baldwin City, became Baker University's third athletic trainer in July. Previously he worked with the ESU women's basket-

ball team in 2010 as a graduate student. In 2012 he was named graduate student of the year for the HPER department at ESU.

Autumn Reece (MS '12) began work as the school psychologist for Hillsboro and Goessel schools this fall. She previously worked in Burlington.

Kaitlin Shelton (BSE '12) began teaching fourth grade at Spring Hill Intermediate School staff in USD 230 Spring Hill this fall.